Prime Time

A New Angle on Crime and the Elderly

by Cy Brickfield

It's a sad story that one often hears and greets with head-shaking dismay. An elderly woman, once victimized by a purse snatcher, has locked herself into her apartment and will probably stay there until she dies. So fearful is she that the same thing may happen again that she rarely ever ventures outside—and, on those pitifully few occasions, she avoids contact with other people.

Such withdrawal does occur with disturbing frequency, and it points up the existence of a particularly sticky problem facing a large number of communities of all sizes—the failure of police and older citizens to communicate effectively with each other.

The relative isolation of many frightened older people helps explain why little attention has been paid until just recently to the increasingly serious problem of the criminally victimized elderly—and its impact upon a community's entire older population.

Change for the better, however, is finally beginning to be seen. The neglect started to end in 1972 with the establishment by AARP and NRTA of the first nationwide Crime Prevention Program especially designed to combat crimes against the elderly.

Since then, relations between police and aged residents have improved dramatically in many communities. For starters, older people are working to show their peers how to reduce their chances of being victimized by criminals. At the same time, law enforcement agencies, both large and small, are beginning to recognize the elderly as a valuable community resource in anticrime efforts.

The San Diego Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit, for example, uses older citizens in its new Integrated Criminal Apprehension Program. Participants translate raw data from crime reports into coded messages that are fed into a computer file. The police use the file to help solve serious crimes—such as rapes, robberies, burglaries and assaults — through faster suspect identification.

In Arizona's Maricopa County, retired engineers built a laboratory in the police department's Crime Resistance Bureau, and then designed and constructed a collapsible leg restraint for use by police officers transporting prisoners.

And in the New York City borough of Queens, older people are providing valuable back-up assistance by monitoring the police radio and handling telephone calls. Older persons are also suited for—and are involved in—numerous other positions in criminal justice work, such as evidence packaging, search and rescue, commercial and residential security, civil process serving, youth work, and parole supervision.

In addition to taking the lead in promoting the development of community programs such as these, AARP and NRTA have launched a new project aimed at overcoming one of the lingering problems existing between police and older members of the community: personal communication. Toward this end, the associations recently published the first major national training course to help law enforcement officials work with older citizens.

Designed to sensitize police officials to the needs, concerns and capabilities of the older population, the 574-page training manual, *Law Enforcement and the Older Person*, was developed through a grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration of the U.S. Justice Department. The grant stemmed from a series of more than 160 seminars conducted since 1973 for law enforcement personnel throughout the country by the AARP-NRTA Crime Prevention staff.

The training course examines the type, frequency and impact of crime against the elderly. It explains the physical, mental and psychological changes that can occur in the aging process and outlines the ways in which older citizens can serve as useful community resources for law enforcement agencies. Special stress is placed on methods for communicating with older persons.

Unsurprisingly, police around the country are responding enthusiastically to the manual.

"It is one of the most comprehensive documents of its kind anywhere," writes Michael S. McCampbell, acting director of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy.

Inquiries about the manual have been received from law enforcement agencies in more than 40 states, and the training course is already being used at such institutions as the FBI Academy at Quantico, Va., the National Crime Prevention Institute at the University of Louisville in Kentucky, and the New Mexico Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Used properly, the course should have a significant nationwide impact on police attitudes toward the elderly—in everything from administrative policy-making to street patrol officer activities. More important, it can lead to a communitywide reduction in crime.

While this training manual is proving helpful to law enforcement agencies, there is another publication aimed at providing individual citizens with the information they need for coping with the threat of crime. It's the 38-page *Retirement Anti-Crime Guide*, and it's available free from AARP-NRTA, P.O. Box 2240, Long Beach, Calif. 90801.

(Cyril F. "Cy" Brickfield is the executive director of the nonprofit, non-partisan National Retired Teachers Association and American Association of Retired Persons in Washington, D.C.)

Revival Planned At Bethel Church

The Bethel United Methodist Church, located near Stonewall, has announced plans for its annual revival, which will be held from Sunday, Sept. 10 to Friday, Sept. 15. Services will begin each night at 8 p.m. The preachers will be the Rev. Ronald K. Morris, of Concord, and the Rev. David R. Drinkard, of Oakville. Both young men are entering their second year of studies at the Candler Divinity School, a graduate theological division of Emory University.

Drinkard and Morris are 1973 graduates of the Appomattox County High School. Mr. Drinkard then entered Ferrum College, from which he was graduated in 1977. Mr. Morris was graduated from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1977. They were both ordained deacon at the 1978 session of the Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, which met in Hampton last June. In the United Methodist Church, Deacon's orders are the first of two ministerial orders which can be attained. The more advanced Elders' orders are usually conferred about one year following completion of a three-year graduate theological education. The work these young men are taking at Emory is a highly regarded program of this type.

Mr. Morris will preach at Bethel on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Drinkard will complete the week. Special music will be provided each night. The pastor of the church, the Rev. James M. Becker of Oakville, will work with the children and young people.

The Bethel United Methodist Church is one of three congregations on the Appomattox Circuit. Morris and Drinkard were raised as members of the Trinity Church of the same circuit. The Bethel Church is about a century old. The members of the church invite the community to these services.

VA Questions And Answers

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

Q - How do I, a separated wife with two children, apply for an apportionment of a veteran's education check?

A - Write a letter to the Veterans Administration requesting an apportionment. Provide the veteran's name, "C" number, or as much identifying information as possible.

Q - What qualifications does a veteran need in order to use his educational benefits for flight training?

A - A veteran must have a private pilot's license and a class two medical certificate.

Q - How do I obtain a VA home loan?

A - First, apply for a certificate of eligibility. The certification can be obtained through any VA regional office. After receiving the certification, go to a mortgage company or bank and apply for your loan.

Q - Is a veteran claiming VA benefits for a spouse required to submit evidence such as a marriage certificate?

A - No. Providing it is the first marriage for each, a written statement by the veteran giving the names of the parties to the marriage and the date and place thereof is all that is required.

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DEATHS

Robert R. Younger

NATHALIE - Robert Roy Younger, 72, of Nathalie, died Saturday in a Lynchburg hospital.

Born in Halifax County Dec. 24, 1905, he was a son of the late John Younger and Patty Jane Midkiff. He was the husband of Clarice Anderson Younger. He was a member of Catawba Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Roy T. Bennett of Concord; four sisters, Mrs. Randolph Henderson, Mrs. P. H. Martin and Mrs. J. G. Coates, all of Halifax, and Mrs. Robert Prince of Fuquay Varina, two brothers, W. A. Younger of Nathalie and Logan Younger of Halifax, and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Monday in Catawba Baptist Church, Nathalie, by the Rev. David Dickerson with burial in the church cemetery.

William L. Stanley

William Leroy Stanley, 50, of Amherst Turnpike, Madison Heights, died at 11:25 p.m. Sunday in Lynchburg General Hospital after a short illness. His wife is June Wooldridge Flowers Stanley.

Born in Appomattox, he was a son of the late William Henry Stanley and Mary Guill Stanley. He was an employee of Sprouse's Trucking Co., a Navy veteran of World War II, and a member of Temple Baptist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Barbara S. Doss of Madison Heights, a stepson, Tommy Flowers, Jr. of Greensboro, N. C.; five stepdaughters, Rebecca Flowers of Lynchburg, Mrs. Larry Cash of Madison Heights, Mrs. Steve Brown and Mrs. David Phiffer, both of Greensboro, and Mrs. William Jessup of Richmond; five brothers, Aubrey E. Stanley, George T. Stanley, both of Madison Heights; and Melvin H. Stanley, James T. Stanley and James David Stanley, all of Lynchburg; three sisters, Mrs. Rachel Williams, Mrs. Nellie McFadden and Mrs. Lula Frances Smith, all of Lynchburg and nine grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Wednesday from Whitten Park Avenue Chapel by the Rev. David Ralston. Burial was in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Tommie Davis

Mrs. Mary E. Davis, of Rt. 4, Appomattox, departed this life Sunday at her residence.

Born in Appomattox, she was the daughter of Tommie and Ross Hunter. She was married to Tommie Davis and a member of Galilee Baptist Church.

In addition to her husband she is survived by three sons, Richard Davis of Washington, D. C., Robert Lee Davis of Alton, W. Va., and Arthur Davis, of Rt. 2, Concord, and many grandchildren, great grandchildren and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. today, Thursday, from Galilee Baptist Church with burial in the church cemetery.

Carl B. Hutcherson Funeral Home is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Oscar N. Lee

Oscar Nowlin Lee, 77, of 24 Pine Haven Drive, Lynchburg, died at 4:30 p.m. Sunday in Lynchburg General Hospital.

Born in Appomattox County, he was the son of Charles Nowlin and Roberta Johnson Lee. He was a retired farmer and a member of Timberlake Baptist Church.

Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Annie L. Bagby of Lynchburg and Mrs. Lillian L. Myers of Richmond, 13 nieces and 13 nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Tuesday at Timberlake Baptist Church by the Revs. Elwood McQuade and Paul Hatmacher. Burial was in Mead Cemetery.

Mrs. E. N. Tyree

GLADSTONE - Mrs. Eva Nesby Tyree, of Rt. 1, Gladstone, died Sunday. She was the widow of the late McKinley Nicholas Tyree.

She is survived by three sons, William M. Tyree, Leonard R. Tyree and Hugh E. Tyree, all of Gladstone; five daughters, Mrs. Raleigh Coffey of Gladstone, Mrs. Carrington Burks of Madison Heights, Mrs. Jack Gregory of Lynchburg, Miss Hester Tyree of Gladstone, and Mrs. Ernest Hudson of Woodbridge; two brothers, R. Fitche Tyree of Gladstone and Clarence J. Tyree of Richmond; a sister, Mrs. Myrtle Tyree of Gladstone, and 28 grandchildren and eight great grand children.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Barbara S. Doss of Madison Heights, a stepson, Tommy Flowers, Jr. of Greensboro, N. C.; five stepdaughters, Rebecca Flowers of Lynchburg, Mrs. Larry Cash of Madison Heights, Mrs. Steve Brown and Mrs. David Phiffer, both of Greensboro, and Mrs. William Jessup of Richmond; five brothers, Aubrey E. Stanley, George T. Stanley, both of Madison Heights; and Melvin H. Stanley, James T. Stanley and James David Stanley, all of Lynchburg; three sisters, Mrs. Rachel Williams, Mrs. Nellie McFadden and Mrs. Lula Frances Smith, all of Lynchburg and nine grandchildren.

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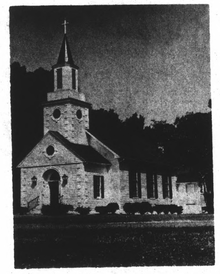
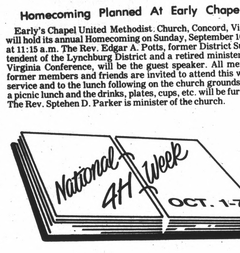


Homecoming Planned At Early Chapel

Early's Chapel United Methodist. Church, Concord, Virginia, will hold its annual Homecoming on Sunday, September 10, 1978, at 11:15 a.m. The Rev. Edgar A. Potts, former District Superintendent of the Lynchburg District and a retired minister of the Virginia Conference, will be the guest speaker. All members, former members and friends are invited to attend this worship service and to the lunch following on the church grounds. Bring a picnic lunch and the drinks, plates, cups, etc. will be furnished. The Rev. Sptehen D. Parker is minister of the church.

T-REBS Football Team - Appomattox Youth Association - will play their first game at Concord at 8 o'clock Saturday night. Front row, left to right, Sonny Martin, Gene Hamlett, Billy Hopkins, Joe Morgan, Ray Richardson, Thomas Doss, and William Trent. Second row, left to right, Roy Wood, Lewis Preston, Todd Thompson, Larry Shorter, Chris Tolley, Edwardo Garcia, Henry Goode, Carroll Patrick. Back row, left to right, John Phillips, Steve Hamlett,Antione Morgan, Johnny McCormick, Bobby Carter, Pete Baldwin, Todd Scruggs. Todd Matthews. Coach from left, Bobby Chenault, Tommy Bryant, and Timmy Doss. Not available for picture Coach Billy Chenault.



SEC SPEAKER

ROBERT PARTRIDGE

Mr. Partridge is the General Manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Washington, of which SEC is a Member. He will speak at the opening of the business session at the 41st annual meeting of the membership of the Southside Electric Cooperative on Saturday in Crewe.

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Chestnut Grove

Mr. and Mrs. Don Morris and boys were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Morgan of Andersonville.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Beasley of Roanoke were weekend visitors of Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Branch of Buckingham.

Sharon Glover has been released from the hospital and she and her parents left on Thursday night for their home in Warner Robins, Ga.

Visitors during the weekend of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook were Charles Wayne Cook of Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Carter of Burkeville.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Senger attended a family get-together at Crewe Monday and spent Monday night with Mrs. Bertha Jones.

Monday visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Morris were Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Wood of Lynchburg.

Visitors Sunday of Mrs. Lucy Glover in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arlis Maxwell of Appomattox were Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Cook of Chesterfield and Mrs. Calvin W. Morris.

Faye Harris is attending Virginia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing in Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Jr. and Kathy visited Mrs. Catherine Carson at Spout Spring Saturday night.

SOCIETY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck May of Spout Spring spent the weekend in Brookneal with his father, Mr. Ralph May.

Alice Stanley was luncheon guest of Mrs. Virginia Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carrico and grandson Timmy of Evergreen called in the home of Mr. Wesley Stanley and Alice Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Richardson of Spout Sprng also called in the same home.

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